

投稿類別:英文寫作

篇名: Discussion and Analysis of Drugs Addiction

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I. Introduction

1. Motivation of study

In this time of drug abuse, drugs can be seen everywhere; people of all ages and occupations are taking drugs. But, are the chemicals the only reason that causes drug addiction? Through this project, the researchers want to tell everyone that chemicals in drugs aren't the only reason that brings up addiction; environments and interpersonal relationships can also have an impact on drug addiction.

2. Purpose of this study

Most people believe that people get addicted to drugs because of the chemicals in the drugs. The researchers want to prove that chemicals are not the only reason that causes drug addiction; environment and relationships also play an important role. Through this research, the researchers want to tell everyone that drug addiction isn't how people think it is, and there are still other reasons that can cause it.

3. Research Method of this study

To ask what people think about drugs and drug addictions, the researchers decide to use questionnaire as their research method. The researchers submit both printed questionnaires and an online version. Through this way, the researchers want to know whether people have taken lessons about drugs or not and if those lessons really helped them understand the danger of drugs. The researchers also want to learn what people think the main reason that makes people want to try drugs is and what makes people addicted to drugs.

II. Literature Review :

1. definition

(1)Sorts of drugs

The definition of drugs is narcotic drug and other products including neurotransmitter and others which can cause dependence, abuse, and danger to the society. (Drug control act, article 2 paragraph 1)

Drugs are split into two main parts, one is narcotic and the other is psychoactive drugs.

Narcotic drug

-natural plants :



Figure 1-drug addiction(Addiction Hotline,2015)

Discussion and Analysis of Drugs Addiction

1 Central nerve system depressants : opium, morphine, heroin

2 Central nerve system stimulants : cocaine, crack

3 Central nerve system psychedelic drugs : marijuana, cannabis resin, cannabis oil

Psychoactive drugs :

1 Central nerve system tranquilizer : secobarbital, amobarbital, methaqualone, FM2

2 Central nerve system stimulant : Amphetamine

3 Central nerve system hallucinogen : LSD 、angel dust(PCP phencyclidine)

Table 1 (Compiled by the author)

Narcotic Drug	Nature plants	Central nerve system depressants	Central nerve system stimulants	Central nerve system psychedelic drugs
		opium	Cocaine	marijuana
		Morphine	crack	Cannabis resin
		heroin		Cannabis oil
	Psychoactive drugs	Central nerve system tranquilizer	Central nerve system stimulate	Central nerve system hallucinogen
		secobarbital	amphetamine	LSD
		amobarbital		Angel dust{PCP phencyclidine}
		methaqualone		
		FM2		

(2)The definition of drugs :

There are four levels in accordance to drug dependence, drug abuse, and danger to the society.

First level : central nerve system depressants are opium, morphine, heroin and central nerve system stimulant is cocaine.

Second level : Psychoactive drug in central nerve system stimulant is amphetamine, central nerve system depressant is psychedelic drug, and central nerve system hallucinogen is LSD in (MDMA, Nimetazepam), pentazocine

Third level : Ketamine, FM2, Nimetazepam in central nerve system hallucinogen

Forth level : Diazepam, Alprazolam

Table 2 (Compiled by the author)

First level	Central nerve system depressants: Opium, Morphine, Heroin,
	Central nerve system stimulant: Cocaine
Second level	Central system stimulate: Amphetamine
	Central nerve system psychedelic drugs: Marijuana
	Central nerve system hallucinogen: LSD
Third level	Ketamine
	Central nerve system hallucinogen: FM2
	Nimetazepam
Forth level	Diazepam
	Alprazolam

2. Professor Bruce K. Alexander and his experiment

Professor Bruce K. Alexander is a physiologic professor in Vancouver. He designed an experiment. He put a rat in a cage with two water bottles alone, one of the water bottles was filled with regular water and the other was placed with heroine. After a couple of days, the rat would be addicted to the drug water and killed itself because of overdosing. Through this experiment, he has come out with a conclusion: laboratory rats in nature are highly social, sexual, and industrious creatures; placing this kind of animal in a cage, they will have nothing to do but take drugs to make their life more exciting



Figure 2- Bruce K. Alexander

The next time Professor Alexander did this experiment, he changed his setting. He built a cage full of tunnels for rats to run, toys for them to play, lots of food and friends to live with. There are also two bottles of water, regular water and drugged water. The result was totally different than the last experiment. The rats still drank the drugged water. But, compared to the last experiment, the rats didn't overdose themselves to death. Their attention had been diverted from the excitement brought by drug to their connection and relationship with each other. The rats no longer rely on drugs. Though there were still a short time for them to overcome, but they quit drug afterwards.

As a matter of fact, applying the same theory onto humans, one doesn't turn out as a junkie when one breaks one's legs and being injected diamorphine in the hospital, and the reason is that the environment one lives is more like a human rat park, not an

isolated cage as in Professor Alexander's first experiment.

3. Ethan Nadelmann and his discovery:

Ethan Nadelmann, a former professor who did researches on drugs. He wondered why the law about drugs in the USA and other countries that made drugs illegal, emphasized criminalization over health problems. He wanted to find out what exactly the problem was.



Figure 3 marijuana(Cincinnati Enquirer,2016)

He asked a few people who involved in the anti-drug efforts in the U.S and Southern America. The result was a cycle about how to solve the problem in cutting off supply and demand. He realized that everyone thought the answer is on the other side which they don't know much, and he believed that there had never been a drug-free society. The challenge was not to cut off drugs, but to learn how to live with them.

He also found out that the reason why some drugs were legal and some were not has nothing to do with science, health or the relative risk of drugs. The first drug prohibition law was actually a result the American's racial discrimination. In fear of white women would become Chinese men's sex slaves, they made drugs illegal.

He mentioned that the market of drugs was a global market just like alcohol, cigarettes, coffee and so on. The only way to make it safer is to bring the underground market aboveground and try the best to control it. The drug can and should be legal but the education mantra should be safety first.

4. Why alcohol is more dangerous than marijuana

Many people believe that Marijuana is dangerous. Unfortunately, alcohol is far more dangerous than Marijuana because people have more drinking problems than problems of smoking Marijuana. Some people even state that alcoholic problems can lead to death, but not marijuana



Figure 4 alcoholic vs. marijuana (Marijuana Packaging,2015)

addiction. Drinking alcohol may harm the brain cells and may be linked to cancer. Most people think that Marijuana will damage the brain cells, but, in fact, it protects the brain cells from getting hurt.

According to a research, alcohol is more addictive than Marijuana. Drinking alcohol leads to bad behaviors such as self-harm, domestic accidents and violence.

The risk of being harmed by smoking marijuana is lower than taking alcohol. The health medical cost associated with alcohol use far exceeds those of marijuana use.

5. Research Results and Analysis

1. Age:

Analysis:

The questionnaire shows that in those who have done the questionnaire, 5% are junior high students, 53% are senior high students, 11% are college students and 31% are college graduates.

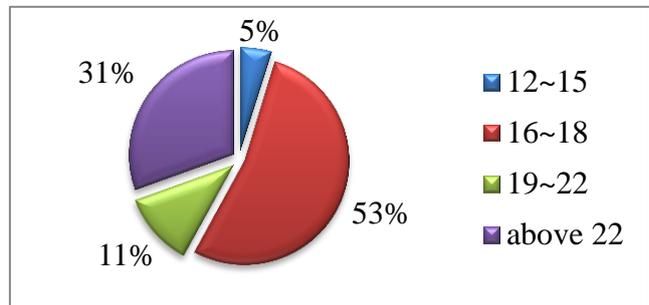


Chart 1 Age Analysis

2. What's the main reason you think that makes people want to try drugs?

Analysis:

The questionnaire shows that most people think curiosity is the main reason that makes people want to try drugs.

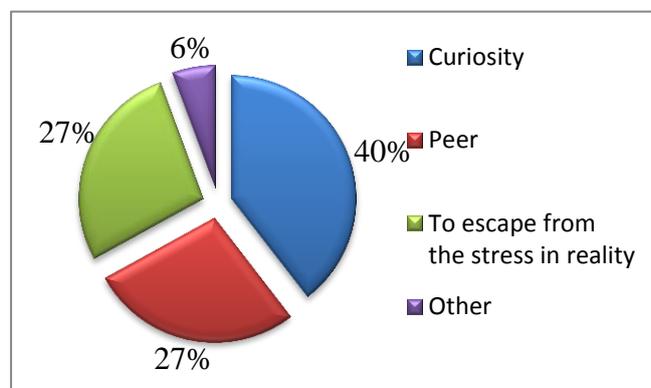


Chart 2 Motivation analysis

3. What's the main reason you think that will cause drug addiction?

Analysis:

The questionnaire shows that more people think that chemicals are the main reason which causes addiction.

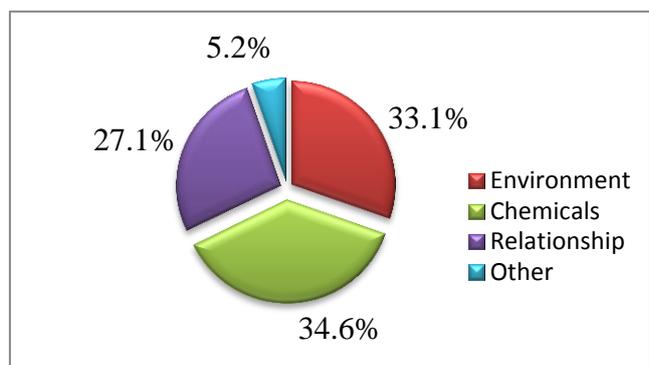


Chart 3 main reason analysis

4. Do you think that people who use drugs should be punished according to the law?

Analysis:

The questionnaire shows that most people think people who use drugs should be punished according to the law.

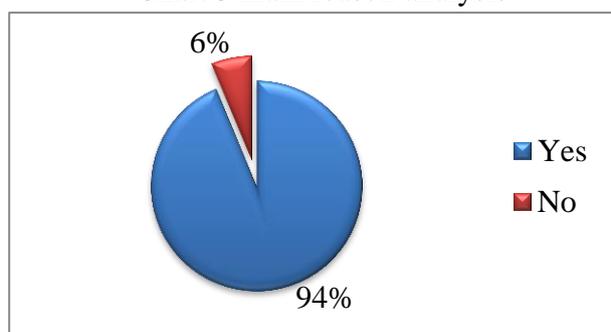


Chart 4 Punishment analysis

5. Will you work or make friends with people who used to be addicted to drugs?

Analysis:

The questionnaire shows that most people will work or make friends with people who used to be addicted to drugs

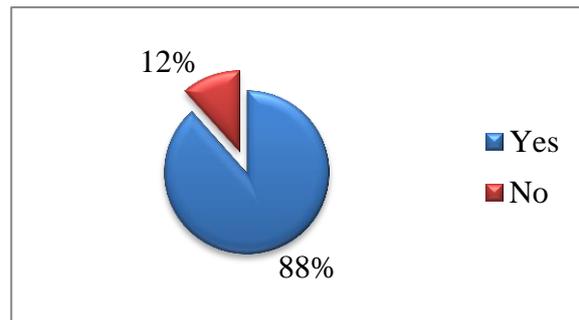


Chart 5 addicted environment analysis

III. Conclusion:

Human beings are social animals; both good and bad connections among people have a bond with addiction. After knowing Professor Alexander and Professor Nadelmann's theory, the researcher had realized that addiction is just a symptom of people losing connection with each other; addicts are sacrificing their need of being connected with something. Just like people who are addicted to smart phones, adult movie, video games or gambling. It should not be seen as a crime. What most societies do to addicts today is to put them in a bad situation which made them feel even more miserable and people also hate them for not recovering. But this kind of treatment should be stopped.

From what the researchers have studied in the past few months, the researchers realized that acceptance and toleration are the best cure for drug addicts. What the society really should do is not to put drug addicts in jail but to show them that they are loved. It is understood that sometimes it is hard to forgive someone with no condition, and people get angry when they see their loved ones are hurting themselves. A question should be asked at this time: Are we willing to create a human rat park for addicts and help them to come back to us, help them to reconnect with this society? Always remember that drug addiction is not about the chemical, it's about the cage, which is the environment.

According to the questionnaires the researchers have collected, 40% of our interviewees think curiosity is the main reason that causes people to do drugs. 34.6% of them think that the chemicals inside the drug are the main reason to cause addiction. But, as a matter of fact, Professor Alexander had done a rat park experiment ¹, and he believes the result can also apply to human beings. That means, when exposed to an environment with a lot of pressure and insecurity, people would use other products to reduce the impact brought by the hostile environment.

Professor Peter Cohen made a proposal saying that we should try to use the viewpoint of "connection" to look upon the word "addiction".

Under today's legal system, people with drug addiction are being harshly punished regardless of the difficulties of quitting drugs and losing connection with people. These made it nearly impossible for drug addicts to have a normal life even after they successfully quit drugs. In the questionnaire, 12% of the people don't want to be with those who quit drugs. The unfriendly society is also the reason that drug addicts lose connection with people. We should create a human rat park for drug addicts to reconnect to the society.

The opposite of addiction is not sobriety, the opposite of addiction is connection.

Taking drugs in Taiwan is a crime. Drug addicts have been punished and labeled; they should be accepted after they quit their addiction. Based on Alexander's rat experiment, even if the society gave more pressure on the drug addicts, it wouldn't help decrease the amount of drugs they use, neither would it prevent them from making the same mistake again. But, in the experiment, a rat with drug addiction went into the park and recovered by itself. The researchers found out that acceptance and toleration are the best cure for drug addicts.

There are two cages in the rat park experiment. One of the cages is to put a rat into it with two bottles of water including regular water and the other is drugged water. The second cage is to put some rats into a rat park with toys, plenty of friends to play with, and tunnels with the same water bottles.

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V. Appendix 1: Questionnaire

We are students from Jing Wen high school, this questionnaire is our method to know how much does people understand drug , their thoughts about drug addiction and people's connection between each other, please make sure your answer is really what you think in your mind! Thank you for your precious time and for helping us with get done of this questionnaire.

1. Age: 12~15 16~18 19~22 above 22
2. Gender: Male Female
3. How many kinds of drugs can you name? Heroin Erimine Cocaine
Amphetamine MDMA Marijuana Xanax
4. Do you think it is easy to get drugs? Yes No
5. What's the main reason you think that make people want to try drug?
Curiosity
Peer
To escape from the stress in reality
6. As far as you know, is drug easy to get addicted in every situation?
Yes No
7. What's the main reason you think that will cause drug addiction?
Environment Chemicals Relationship
8. Have your parents told you not to use drugs?
Yes No
9. Have you any education about "fight against drugs"?
Yes No
10. Did those classes help you understand the danger and severity of drugs?
Yes No
11. Do you think that people who use drugs should be punished according to law?
Yes No
12. Will you work or make friend with people who used to be addicted to drugs?
Yes No

~~~Thank you for your help!!~~~